

House File 273 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 273

BY ANDERSON

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to income eligibility, waiting list guidelines,
2 and child care provider reimbursement rates under the state
3 child care assistance program and including effective date
4 provisions.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 237A.13, subsection 3, Code 2017, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. The For the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and
4 each fiscal year thereafter, the department shall set provider
5 reimbursement rates, as authorized by appropriations enacted
6 for payment of the reimbursements, at the seventy-fifth
7 percentile of the most recent statewide reimbursement rate
8 survey. The department shall conduct a statewide reimbursement
9 rate survey to compile information on each county and the
10 survey shall be conducted at least every two years. The
11 department shall set rates in a manner so as to provide
12 incentives for an unregistered provider to become registered.

13 Sec. 2. Section 237A.13, subsection 7, paragraph c, Code
14 2017, is amended to read as follows:

15 c. Families with an income of more than one hundred
16 percent but not more than ~~one~~ two hundred ~~forty-five~~ percent
17 of the federal poverty level whose members, for at least
18 twenty-eight hours per week in the aggregate, are employed
19 or are participating at a satisfactory level in an approved
20 training program or educational program.

21 Sec. 3. DIRECTIVE TO DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES — CHILD
22 CARE ASSISTANCE INCOME ELIGIBILITY.

23 1. The department of human services shall amend its
24 administrative rules pursuant to chapter 17A to provide income
25 eligibility for state child care assistance, according to
26 family size for children needing basic care, to families whose
27 nonexempt gross monthly income does not exceed two hundred
28 percent of the federal poverty level.

29 2. The rules adopted pursuant to this section shall take
30 effect January 1, 2018.

31 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect January 1,
32 2018.

33 EXPLANATION

34 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
35 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

1 This bill relates to income eligibility, waiting list
2 guidelines, and child care provider reimbursement rates
3 under the state child care assistance program and includes an
4 effective date.

5 The bill requires the department of human services to set
6 child care provider reimbursement rates for the fiscal year
7 that begins July 1, 2017, and each fiscal year thereafter, at
8 the 75th percentile of the most recent statewide reimbursement
9 rate survey, which is conducted at least every two years.

10 The state child care assistance program is administered by
11 the department of human services. Based upon the availability
12 of the funding appropriated for state child care assistance
13 for a fiscal year, the department establishes waiting
14 lists for state child care assistance in descending order
15 of prioritization. Under current law, one of the waiting
16 list requirements relates to families with an income of
17 more than 100 percent but not more than 145 percent of the
18 federal poverty level whose members, for at least 28 hours
19 per week in the aggregate, are employed or are participating
20 at a satisfactory level in an approved training program or
21 educational program. The bill increases this waiting list
22 income eligibility limit from 145 percent to 200 percent.

23 The bill directs the department to amend its administrative
24 rules to provide income eligibility for state child care
25 assistance, according to family size for children needing basic
26 care, to families whose nonexempt gross monthly income does not
27 exceed 200 percent of the federal poverty level.

28 The bill takes effect January 1, 2018.